REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

As a preliminary matter, Applicants filed an Information Disclosure Statement was filed on February 10, 2004. Acknowledgment thereof is respectfully requested.

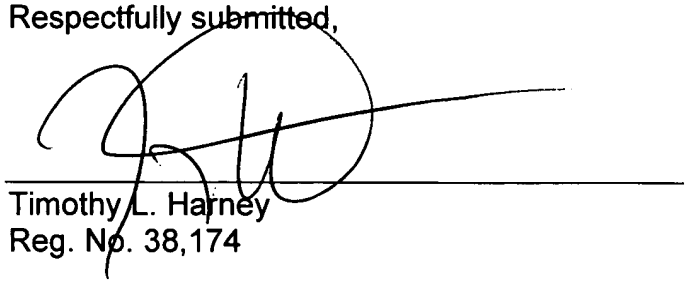
The specification is amended to include the patent number and issue date of the parent application. No new matter is added.

Claims 23-36 are currently pending. Claims 23-36 stand rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 2-11 and 22-23 of U.S. Patent No. 6,639,866. Applicants do not agree with the Examiner's rejection. Specifically, Applicants believe that the claims 23-36 of the present invention are patentably distinct from claims 2-11 and 22-23 of U.S. Patent 6,639,866. Nevertheless, Applicants are submitting a Terminal Disclaimer in compliance with 37 C.F.R. 1.321(c), disclaiming the terminal part of this application that extends beyond the expiration date of claims 2-22 and 22-23 of commonly owned U.S. Patent No. 6,639,866, to obviate the double patenting rejection. Applicants respectfully submit that the obvious type-double patenting rejection is overcome.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the pending claims define allowable subject matter. Applicants request that the present case pass to allowance. Should anything remain in order to place the present application in condition for allowance, the Examiner is kindly invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Dated: June 8, 2004

Respectfully submitted,



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